

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a protective layer, comprising the steps of:  
applying liquid material to an object from a sprayer mechanism of a coating device; and  
drying said liquid material to form a peelable protective layer,  
wherein said sprayer mechanism sprays said liquid material such that said liquid material  
is distributed locally at a position close to an edge of said object, and simultaneously distributed  
widely at a position away from said edge of said object.

2. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 1, wherein  
said coating device is a robot, said sprayer mechanism is attached to an arm of said robot,  
and said object is a vehicle body.

3. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 1, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises a plurality of sprayer mechanisms, and said coating  
device comprises a plurality of coating devices corresponding to said sprayer mechanisms, said  
coating devices are robots, said sprayer mechanisms are attached to corresponding arms of said  
robots, and said object is a vehicle body.

4. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 1, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises a first sprayer and a second sprayer which are placed in  
parallel on an arm of said coating device, said method comprising the step of moving said first  
sprayer close to said edge and moving said second sprayer away from said edge, and  
when said liquid material is sprayed from said first sprayer and said second sprayer

towards said object, said liquid material is distributed locally from said first sprayer, and said liquid material is distributed widely from said second sprayer.

5. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 4, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism further comprises at least one middle sprayer between said first sprayer and said second sprayer, and  
said liquid material from said middle sprayer is distributed widely in comparison with said liquid material from said first sprayer, and distributed locally in comparison with said liquid material from said second sprayer.

6. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 5, wherein  
intervals between adjacent ones of said first sprayer, middle sprayer and said second sprayer are large at positions close to said second sprayer (44b) and small at positions close to said first sprayer.

7. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 4, wherein  
spray pressure of said liquid material from said first sprayer is smaller than that of said second sprayer.

8. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 5, wherein  
spray pressure of said liquid material from said at least one middle sprayer is larger than that of said first sprayer and smaller than that of said second sprayer.

9. (Previously presented) A coating method according to claim 5, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises multiple middle sprayers between said first sprayer and said second sprayer, and  
spray pressure of said liquid material from at least one of said middle sprayers is larger than that of said first sprayer and smaller than that of said second sprayer.

10. (Original) A coating method according to claim 1, wherein said liquid material comprises acrylic copolymer as a main component.

11. (Withdrawn) A coating system comprising:  
a coating device provided close to a transport line for an object to be coated,  
a sprayer mechanism provided on said coating device,  
a supply mechanism which supplies liquid material to said sprayer mechanism to form a peelable protective layer on said object after drying said object, and  
a controller which controls said sprayer mechanism of said coating device such that said liquid material is distributed locally at a position close to an edge of said object, and distributed widely at a position away from said edge of said object.

12. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 11, wherein  
said coating device is a robot and said sprayer mechanism is mounted on an arm of said robot, and applies said liquid material to a vehicle body as said object.

13. (Withdrawn) A coating system as in claim 11, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises a plurality of sprayer mechanisms, and said coating device comprises a plurality of coating devices corresponding to said sprayer mechanisms, said coating devices are robots, said sprayer mechanisms are attached to corresponding arms of said robots, and said object is a vehicle body.

14. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 11 wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises a first sprayer and a second sprayer which are positioned in parallel on an arm, and  
when said first sprayer is close to said edge, while said second sprayer is away from said edge, said controller controls said sprayer mechanism such that said liquid material is distributed

locally from said first sprayer, and said liquid material is distributed widely from said second sprayer.

15. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 14, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism further comprises at least one middle sprayer positioned between  
said first sprayer and said second sprayer, and  
said controller controls said sprayer mechanism such that said liquid material from said  
middle sprayer is distributed widely in comparison with said liquid material from said first  
sprayer, and distributed locally in comparison with said liquid material from said second sprayer.

16. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 15, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism further comprises multiple middle sprayers, and  
intervals between adjacent ones of said middle sprayers are large at positions close to said  
second sprayer, intervals between adjacent ones of said middle sprayers are small at positions  
close to said first sprayer.

17. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 11, wherein  
said controller controls said sprayer mechanism such that spray pressure of said liquid  
material from said first sprayer is smaller than that of said second sprayer.

18. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 15, wherein  
spray pressure of said liquid material from said at least one middle sprayer is larger than  
that of said first sprayer and smaller than that of said second sprayer.

19. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 15, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism comprises multiple middle sprayers between said first sprayer  
and said second sprayer, and  
spray pressure of said liquid material from at least one of said middle sprayers is larger

than that of said first sprayer and smaller than that of said second sprayer.

20. (Withdrawn) A coating system according to claim 11, wherein  
said sprayer mechanism sprays said liquid material without accompanying air.